

Message Text

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PAGE 01 TOKYO 00733 171039Z
ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00
PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 PM-05 NSC-05 SS-15
/055 W

-----029269 171106Z /13

P 170916Z JAN 78

FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4379
INFO CINCPAC HONOLULU PRIORITY
COMUSJAPAN YOKOTA

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CINCPAC FOR POLAD AND USDEL SSC

E.O. 11652: NA
TAGS: MARR, JAN US
SUBJECT: JAPANESE PRESS COVERAGE OF SSC

REF: (A) TOKYO 0732 (B) CINCPAC P160552Z JAN

1. ALL PAPERS AND KYODO CARRIED WEEKEND NEWS STORIES CONCERNING SSC MEETING. WITH EXCEPTION OF YOMIURI, ALL WERE FACTUAL AND BASED ON FONMIN PRESS RELEASE. YOMIURI STORY OF JAN. 15 REPORTED THAT DISCUSSIONS AT SSC WOULD DEAL WITH "PLANS FOR WITHDRAWAL OF THE FIRST CONTINGENT OF 6,000 US GROUND FORCES FROM KOREA AND THE REDUCTION OF US FORCES IN JAPAN INCLUDING THE MARINES." STORY WENT ON TO STATE THAT GOJ PLANS TO DISPATCH JDA DIRGEN KANEMARU TO US IN MAY TO FINALIZE RESULTS OF THESE DISCUSSIONS WITH SECDEF BROWN.

2. SOURCE OF YOMIURI INFO CONCERNING REDUCTIONS IN JAPAN IS UNKNOWN BUT IT HAS BEEN REPORTING IMMINENT MARINE WITHDRAWALS FROM OKINAWA FOR SOME MONTHS NOW DUE TO LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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ITS "DISCOVERY" OF DECISION TO DRAW MAINE AFLOAT BATTALIONS IN WESTPAC FROM MARINE UNITS BASED IN CONUS AND HAWAII RATHER THAN OKINAWA. AS REPORTED REFTEL A, KANEMARU'S PROPOSAL FOR VISIT TO US IS STRICTLY PERSONAL. YOMIURI HAS PUT TWO-AND-TWO TOGETHER AND GOTTEN FIVE. EMBASSY BELIEVES THAT BEST WAY TO DEAL WITH THIS STORY IS SIMPLY TO REPEAT HIGH-

LEVEL STATEMENTS CONCERNING US PRESENCE IN EAST ASIA.

3. MAINICHI IN LENGTHY EDITORIAL OF JAN. 16 TITLED
"SIGNIFIGANCE OF JAPAN-US DEFENSE CONSULTATIONS"
SURMISES THAT US HAS CONSOLIDATED ITS NEW DEFENSE
POLICY AFTER ONE YEAR IN OFFICE BY CARTER ADMINISTRATION.
IT CITED KOEA SITUTAION IN WAKE OF US FORCE REDUCTIONS
AS CENTRAL TOPIC OF DISCUSSION NOTING THAT REPORTS
CONCERNING PRM-10 STATED THAT US ANTICIPATED THAT
SEOUL WOULD TEMPORARILY FALL INTO ENEMY HANDS IF
NORTH KOREA ATTACKED. IT ALSO MENTIONED OTHER PRESS
REPORTS CONCERNING GROWING SOVIET PRESENCE IN EAST
ASIA AND UNCERTAINTY OF US ALLIES CONCERNING AMERICAN
ROLE AND NOTED POSSIBILITY OF INCREASED US PRESSURES
FOR JAPAN TO INCREASE ITS DEFENSE CAPABILITIES. ITS
CONCLUSION WAS THAT CONSULTATIONS SUCH AS SSC WERE NECESSARY
AND USEFUL.
SHERMAN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TROOP REDUCTIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 17 jan 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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From: TOKYO
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